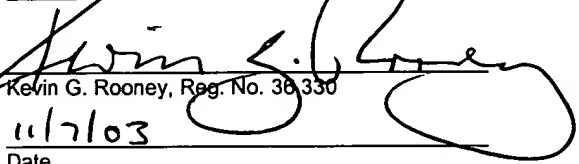


I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on November 7, 2003.

  
Kevin G. Rooney, Reg. No. 36,330

11/7/03  
Date

**PATENT**

*Pre Amt A*  
*12/17/03*

Applicants: Warren P. Williamson IV et al.  
Serial No.: 09/890,177  
Filed: July 27, 2001  
Group Art Unit: 3736  
Examiner: Unknown  
Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR HARVESTING AND  
HANDLING TISSUE SAMPLES FOR BIOPSY ANALYSIS  
Confirmation No.: 7549  
Attorney Ref. No.: BIOP-02

Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

November 7, 2003

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Please amend the above-identified application as follows prior to  
examination:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which  
begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 29 of this paper.

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